デルレイ

MY HEAVENLY HOCKEY CLUB 7

AI MORINAGA

Ballantine Books

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Hana is interested in only two things—eating and sleeping. But when a pastry shop opens in Hana's neighborhood and she gets a part-time job there, people begin to wonder: Does she love sweets, or the shop's gorgeous chef? When the chef asks Hana to go with him to France, it's the icing on the cake.

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ISBN 978-0-345-50208-1

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My Heavenly Hockey Club

7

Ai Morinaga

Translated and adapted by Athena Nibley and Alethea Nibley

Lettered by North Market Street Graphics

BALLANTINE BOOKS • NEW YORK

My Heavenly Hockey Club volume 7 is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places, and incidents are the products of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual events, locales, or persons, living or dead, is entirely coincidental.

A Del Rey Manga/Kodansha Trade Paperback Original

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Published in the United States by Del Rey, an imprint of The Random House Publishing Group, a division of Random House, Inc., New York

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Publication rights arranged through Kodansha Ltd.

First published in Japan in 2007 by Kodansha Ltd., Tokyo
as *Gokurako Seishun Hockeybu*

ISBN 978-0-345-50200-1

Printed in the United States of America

www.delreymanga.com

9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

Translators/Adapters—Athena Nibley and Alethea Nibley
Lettering—North Market Street Graphics

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Shanghai Zoo Part 2!! Here we have the wolf, Hogeo-kun. It looks like he's just a head, but he actually does have a body, too. Princess Tenko is ghastly pale, too. This is Princess Hogeo. Oh, I guess he's a prince. I made him a girl. Sorry, Hogeo. —Ai Morinaga

Honorifics Explained

Throughout the Del Rey Manga books, you will find Japanese honorifics left intact in the translations. For those not familiar with how the Japanese use honorifics and, more important, how they differ from American honorifics, we present this brief overview.

Politeness has always been a critical facet of Japanese culture. Ever since the feudal era, when Japan was a highly stratified society, use of honorifics—which can be defined as polite speech that indicates relationship or status—has played an essential role in the Japanese language. When addressing someone in Japanese, an honorific usually takes the form of a suffix attached to one's name (example: "Asuna-san"), is used as a title at the end of one's name, or appears in place of the name itself (example: "Negi-sensei," or simply "Sensei!").

Honorifics can be expressions of respect or endearment. In the context of manga and anime, honorifics give insight into the nature of the relationship between characters. Many English translations leave out these important honorifics and therefore distort the feel of the original Japanese. Because Japanese honorifics contain nuances that English honorifics lack, it is our policy at Del Rey not to translate them. Here, instead, is a guide to some of the honorifics you may encounter in Del Rey Manga:

-san: This is the most common honorific and is equivalent to Mr., Miss, Ms., or Mrs. It is the all-purpose honorific and can be used in any situation where politeness is required.

-sama: This is one level higher than "-san" and is used to confer great respect.

-dono: This comes from the word "tono," which means "lord." It is an even higher level than "-sama" and confers utmost respect.

-kun: This suffix is used at the end of boys' names to express familiarity or endearment. It is also sometimes used by men among friends, or when addressing someone younger or of a lower station.

-chan: This is used to express endearment, mostly toward girls. It is also used for little boys, pets, and even among lovers. It gives a sense of childish cuteness.

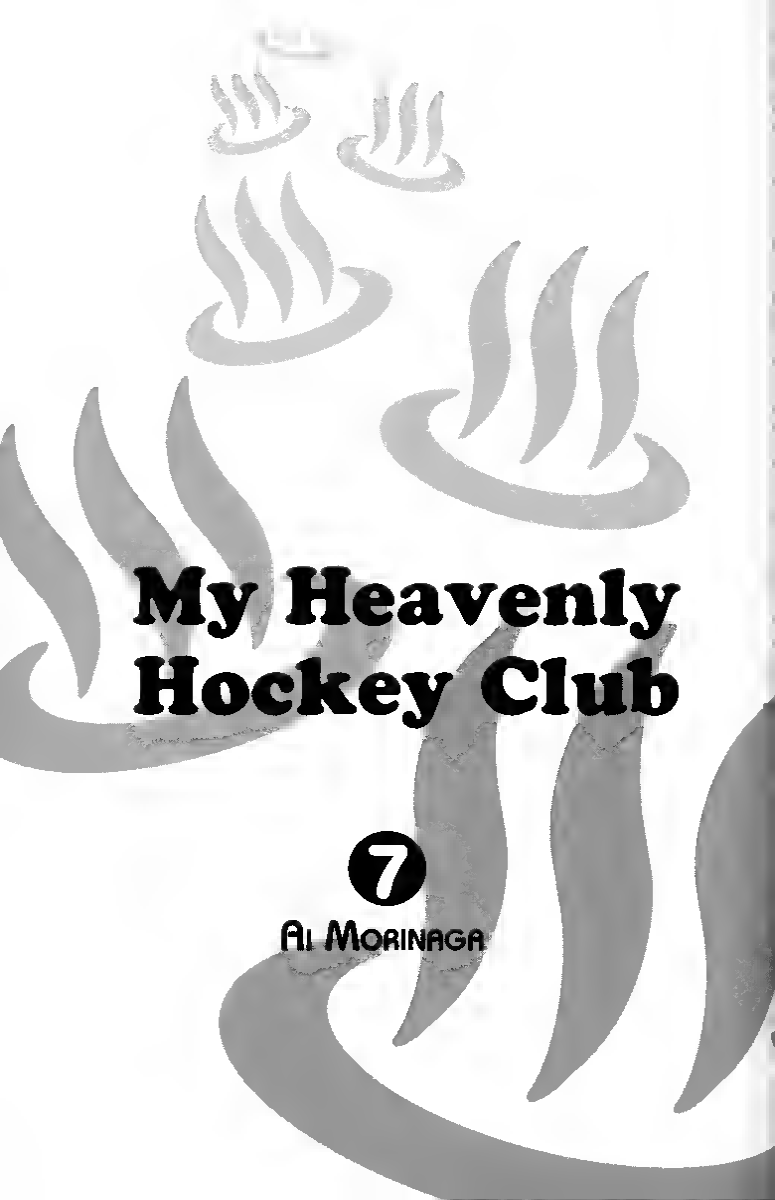
Bozu This is an informal way to refer to a boy, similar to the English terms "kid" and "squirt."

Sempai/Senpai This title suggests that the addressee is one's senior in a group or organization. It is most often used in a school setting, where underclassmen refer to their upperclassmen as "sempai." It can also be used in the workplace, such as when a newer employee addresses an employee who has seniority in the company.

Kohai This is the opposite of "sempai" and is used toward underclassmen in school or newcomers in the workplace. It connotes that the addressee is of a lower station.

Sensei Literally meaning "one who has come before," this title is used for teachers, doctors, or masters of any profession or art.

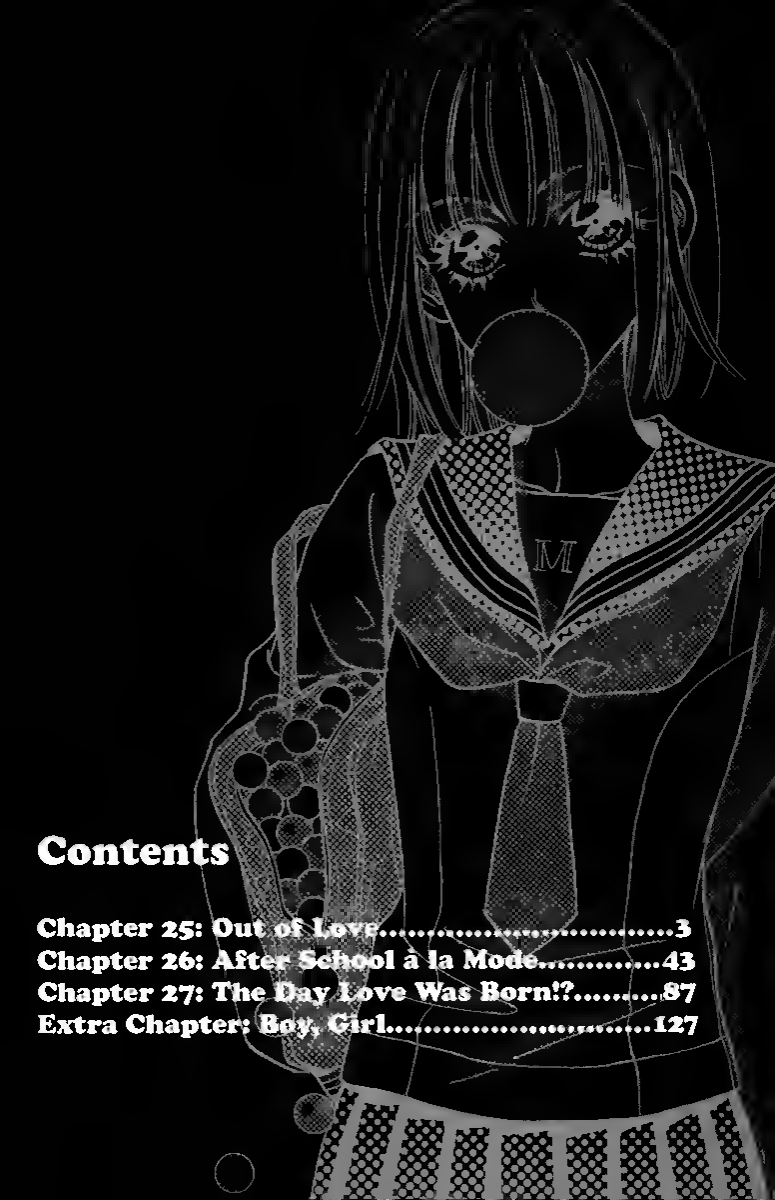
-[blank] This is usually forgotten in these lists, but it is perhaps the most significant difference between Japanese and English. The lack of honorific means that the speaker has permission to address the person in a very intimate way. Usually, only family, spouses, or very close friends have this kind of permission. Known as *yobisute*, it can be gratifying when someone who has earned the intimacy starts to call one by one's name without an honorific. But when that intimacy hasn't been earned, it can be very insulting.



My Heavenly Hockey Club

7

Ai Morinaga



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Chapter 25: Out of Love

Was Shizuoka always this far away?
Sensei, are we there yet?
We won't make it in time to play.
Seriously, these days you should at least rent a car with GPS.

Look forward, forward, forward!

Are you okay, Izumi?
Oh, pardon me, pardon me.
We couldn't just lock *Seimei* up in a pet carrier for such a long time, poor thing.
I *knew* we should have taken the *shinkansen*...
Now, Wacky!
WHAP
But Takashi is the one taking care of him!
Aww! But pets are a part of the family.
Then leave him at home!

ENCHANTED...
うとり...
Just a minute. What are you doing to my Seimei...
S-Sensei! Look Forward! Forward!
What are you doing!?
You're in the wrong lane! Wrong lane!
PRRRRRH

SCREEEEEEEEEECH
GYAAAAAAAH!
Pardon me, pardon me. My reflection in the rearview mirror was just so beautiful, I...
That's why we keep telling you: Don't look in the rearview mirror!!

Are you hurt, Izumi!?
Owww
ズキン
STING
Are you okay, Seimei!?
ズボッ
POP
I'm okay. I just got bumped a little.
But Seimei...
Hey! What are you people doing!? You nearly got us all killed!!
We're sorry...
Oww..

Aaaaahhhh!?
You again!? What are you doing here!?
I should be asking you!!
We have an away game in Shizuoka.
What about you? Why are you everywhere we go...?
Shizuoka?
What are you talking about? We're in Aichi Prefecture.

Eeeeehhh!?
That's strange. We should have been driving through Shimizu until just a little while ago.
Sensei! Hey! We passed Shizuoka!
Then we make a U-turn! Get in, everyone!
I'm done with this. Everyone, unload your bags!
We'll get another car.
We won't make it in time for the match.
We're cancelling for today!
We'll have some misokatsu in Nagoya and go home.
PERK
Nagoya, huh? Some chicken wings would be nice, too.
And unagi!
Tenmusu, tenmusu!
Ebi-fry

Heh heh heh.
I was watching a TV special on Nagoya Cochin, and it gave me the biggest craving for chicken wings.
It's the pick-up bus for our company's holiday resort.
Y.. yes.
This car yours?
.....
じ〜
STARE
Sensei, you drive the other car.
やったニャ
Yay!
Okay, fine! I'll take you. Get on!

*Actually, Ôta the Younger used to be fat, and Hanai was head over heels for his stomach. (See Volume 2)
Stomach Pillow. ♪*
Since they have animals with them, it will be hard for them to find a hotel now.
Brother, if they'd like, why not let them stay at the resort?
I thought I told you he's not "Stomach Pillow"!!
No, not at all
Unlike your brother...
You're a good man.
Mm-hm.
I can finally sleep. Zzzzzz.
Come on, I'm almost done
I thought I told you this isn't a toy.
PRINT
PRINT
Hey, Seimei. Behave yourself.

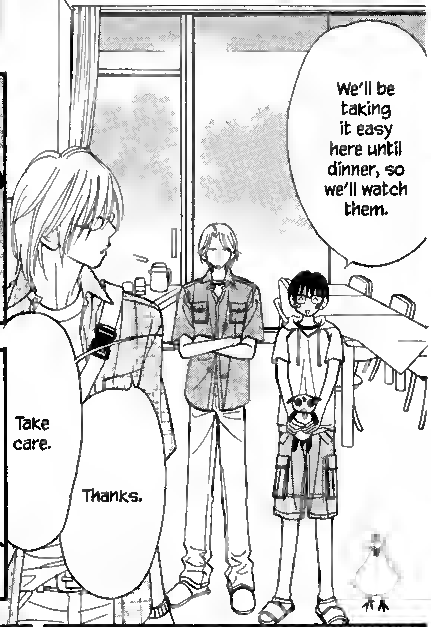
That's some bump.
Do you hurt anywhere else?
All right, done.
WHIMPER
WHIMPER
STING
STING
Wacky, I'm treating Seimei's bump right now. Be a good girl.
!?
KONK
KNUUU

I thought I told you to cut it out! Seimei is hurt!
Wacky!?
What, what?
KONK
KONK
KONK
KONK
SNOOOORE
?
TWITCH
He was following us for a while, but I guess we got separated.
Come to think of it, where's Mar-tan?
We just rebuilt it last year.
Heh heh heh.
Woooowww! The resort is so pretty!

I guess it's perfect that the loud, annoying one is gone.
Well, he's a grown man. He should be fine.
Nagoya
Bururu
We'll have misokatsu for lunch,
So I guess for dinner, we'll have chicken.
Nagoya Cochin!
Chicken wings, chicken wings!!
All right, well, we're going sightseeing.
Be good while we're gone.
And stop fighting.
FILE
FILE
Oohh, these chicken wings look good ♡

HUFF
HUFF

TWITCH


We'll be taking it easy here until dinner, so we'll watch them.
Take care.
Thanks.

WHIP
WHIP
No, Wacky! Seimei wants to play.
HUFF
HUFF

どばん
LUNGE
Bakaaawwwk!

But why do they keep such ugly pets?
Seimei must really like you, Wacky.
HUFF
HUFF
SIGH
Ammmm. They're cute! I like them.
Now, come here, Wacky.
He has glasses, but he's not my type.
HUFF
Why you! How dare you ignore my brother! You're just a chicken!!

We can give you some to take home, if you'd like...
Oh no. I could eat a million of these.
And I just had some misoka-tsu.
...ummmmm ♡
Y...
Then one serving, please.
Are you sure you want only the noodles?
I think it will be all right, but...
Could I take back just some noodles from the kishimen?
Yaaaaay!
No, it's just...
That's all starch! Have some vegetables, too
What? A midnight snack?

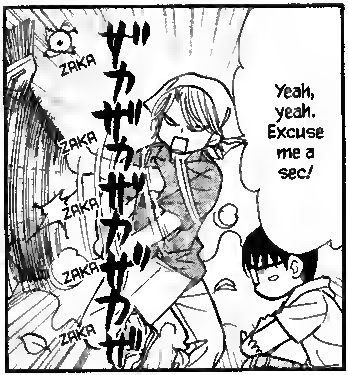
We're back!
だ
DARAAH~!
3
I thought I told you to play nice, Wacky!
Pff!
ビタン!
LATCH!
どむ
PUNT
ぐっ
Are you okay, Seimei?
There, there.
しょんぼり…
DEJECTED...

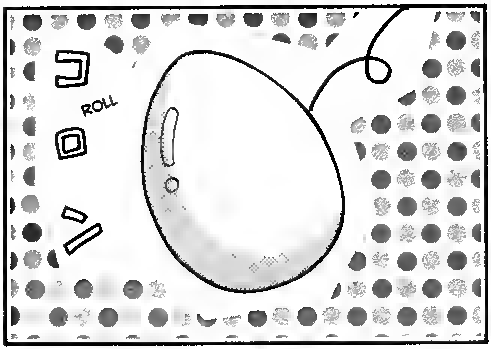
Since we're in Nagoya, and all.
Wacky, I brought some *kishimen* back for you.
You like noodles, don't you?
Oh, so it was for Wacky.
Here, Wacky.
MUNCH
MUNCH

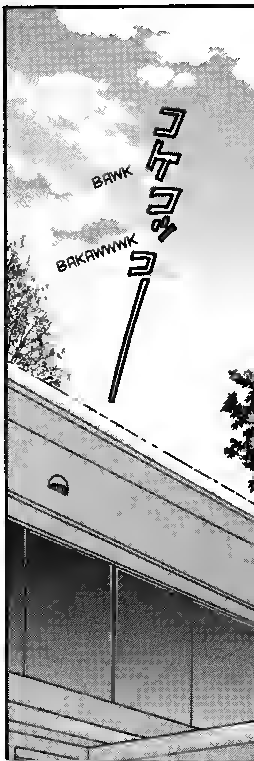
ドリ
POKE
スッ
BLAH
Seimei!!
ROLL
ラリラリ
Wacky...
BLAH BLAH BLAH
Auditory hallucination
Well, it's not surprising.
When it comes to pets, dogs are more loved than chickens.

Aaaaaaaah
おはははは
Ha ha ha ha ha ha ha
Come on, Brother!
It's okay, Wacky. He doesn't mean it.
STING
STING
STING
Chickens are only good for eggs, after all, and when there are no more eggs, it's time for chicken wings.
STING
Right?
Cheer up.
If you apologize, he'll forgive you.
STAAARE
To make up with him tomorrow, why not give him an egg you just laid as a present?

Brother, she's a chicken! A chicken.
Don't you be making eyes at my brother!


ZAKA
ZAKA
ZAKA
ZAKA
ZAKA
Yeah, yeah. Excuse me a sec!


コロ
ROLL
ン


コケコッ
BAWK
BAKAWWWK
ン

YAWN
くあ
Sydney
'Morning.
Good morning!
DOKI
ドキドキ
DOKI
DOKI
Ugh, she's hopeless.
I called her but didn't get a response.
Where's Hana?
Wacky.
MINCE
とと
とと
MINCE

You brought it to give it to me?
For me?
Thank you.

Lucky you. You got a freshly laid egg.
Yay
Egg's and rice, eggs and rice!
Want some?
GRN
GRN
HUFF
HUFF
CHOMP
You like it? I'm glad.
You want some too, Seimei?
CHOMP

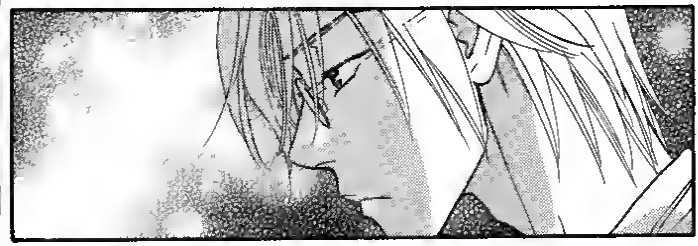
Ow!
Wacky!?
BAKAWWWK
WHAP
WHAP
WHAP
Ow ow ow! What's with you all of a sudden!?
Stop it, Wacky! What's wrong!?
GASHARRRN
Gh...!
Izumi!

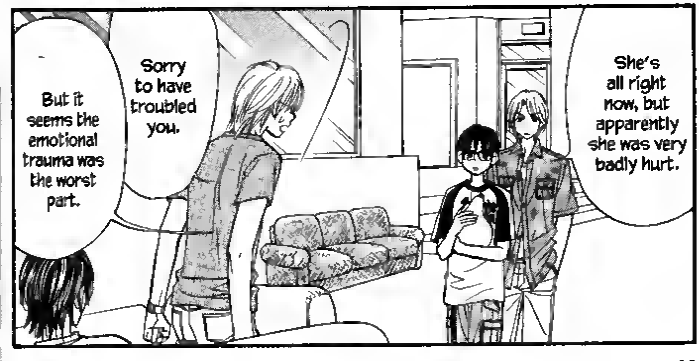
FLINCH
If you can't get along with everyone, I'll put you out.
Seriously.
Cut it out, Wacky!!

Are you okay, Izumi?
Man, that scared me.
WHIMPER
WHIMPER
キューン
STING
ズキン
Uh
Um, Iboigawa-san...
Wacky!?
STAGGER
フラー

WHAP!
What's wrong, Wacky? Are you hurt!?
Wacky!?
SQUEEEEEEZE
ぎゅぅ
One-Eyed Style

So Wacky got hurt yesterday.
I feel so bad that we didn't notice.




She's all right now, but apparently she was very badly hurt.
Sorry to have troubled you.
But it seems the emotional trauma was the worst part.

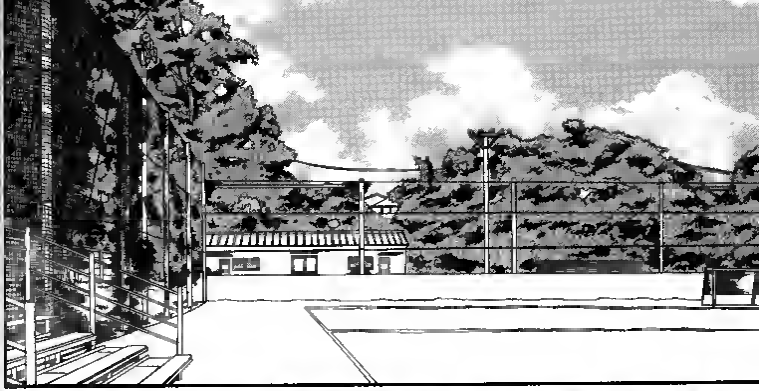
.....
I'm sorry, Wacky.
I'm sorry I didn't realize.
Um...
If you don't mind,
I wonder if you'd let me adopt Wacky.
Eh...?

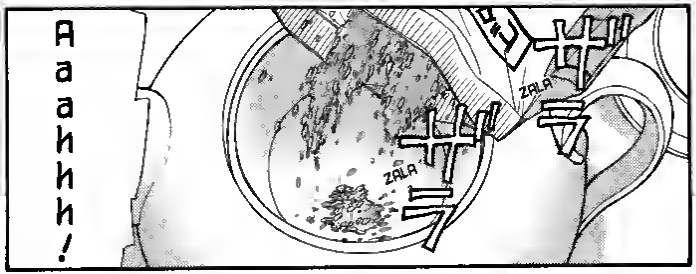
Eeeehhhh!?
No! I worked hard to hatch Wacky!
That's right! No, no, you can't! A worthless chicken like that!
Please, Big Brother?
Ugh, fine.
You'll have sole responsibility for taking care of her.
.....

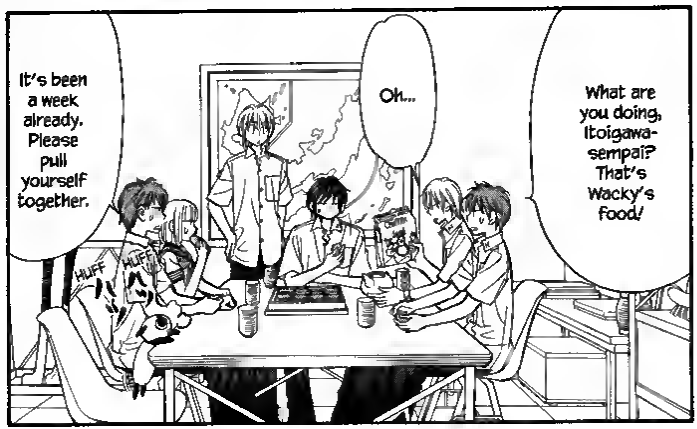
Please?
I'll absolutely take good care of her.

If that's what Wacky wants...
...they're gone.
I guess we should get our things together and head out ourselves.

BASSA
ぼっさ
どすっ
THUD
BASSA
ぼっさ
Owww!
Are you really sure about this?
Y-you're heavy, Wacky!
BAKAWWWK
コケ
コ BOCK
コ BOCK
コ BOCK
The last one...!
Ahhh! My kaeru manjū!
GULP
GULP
GULP
EMPTY
BELCH
Uu
ZZZZZZ




Aaahhh!
ZALA
ZALA


It's been a week already. Please pull yourself together.
Oh...
What are you doing, Itoigawa-sempai? That's Wacky's food!
HUFF
HUFF

I wonder how Wacky's doing.
DAZE
ぼんやり
ZAPPA
Apparently they get along *too* well. The older Ôta was muttering about it.
Oh. So he's taking that good care of her.
It's good that she's happy, but...
HUFF
HUFF
CHEEP
It really is a little lonely without her.
じわ
GULP
GULP
CHICKENFEED
Takashi, throw that away, already!
I'll throw it away for you.
Aahh! Wai...
KNOCK
KNOCK
Come in!

I have returned.
Wacky!?
HOP
Wacky.
Why...?
SQUEEZE
THUD
THUD
THUD

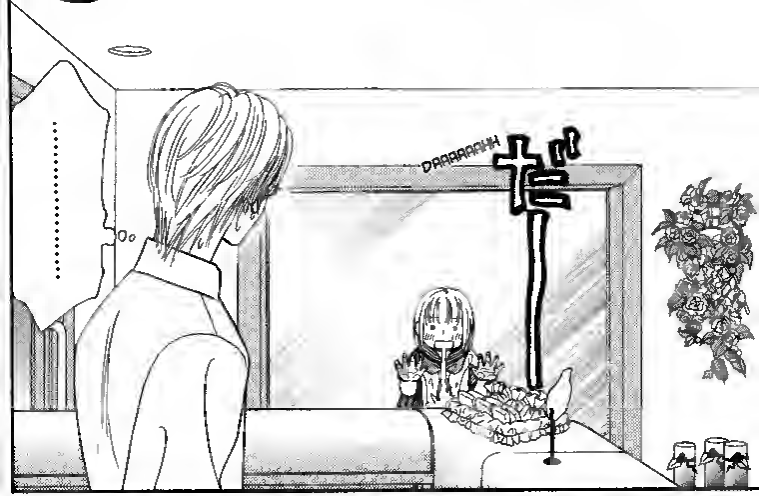
Eeee

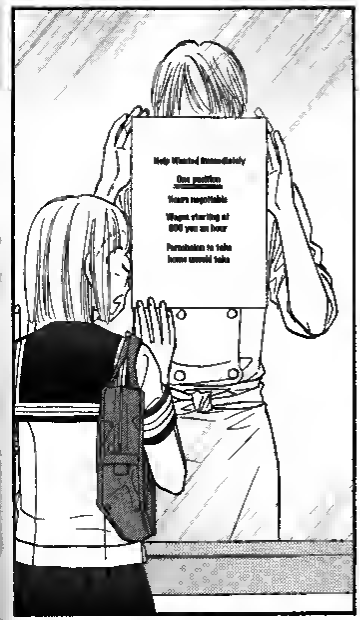
Chapter 26: After School à la Mode

Nice practice, everyone!
Good work.
Well, see you tomorrow.
Hana, want a ride?
I have somewhere to go, so not today, thanks.
Good-bye!
Again, Hana-chan?
Every day recently. I wonder where she goes.
Dunno...

Saint-Honoré Rosé, 400 yen*
*About $4
Ruban Rose
What'll I do? I was determined to get a *mont blanc* this time.
Ooohh, they have another new one.

And that fig one I had last time was super good, also.
Ummmh
I want to have that again, too.
KAPA
25 yen...*
*About 25 cents
It's another week until my next allowance.
To think there'd be such a yummy shop in my neighborhood. It's too cruel...
It's so far away...
SIGH




Help Wanted Immediately
One position
Hours negotiable
Wages starting at 900 yen an hour
Permission to take home unsold cake

Help Wanted Immediately.

One position

Hours negotiable

Wages starting at 900 yen* an hour

Permission to take home unsold cake

*About $9

Yes! I'll do it! Please hire me!!
JINGLE
JINGLE
カラン
Hey, Hana!
It's been a week now! How long are you gonna ditch club!?

Didn't I tell you I'd be taking time off for a while?
I don't remember allowing it!
What's wrong with having some male bonding once in a while?
Ngh! Blast it! I'm late!
Ah! Hey! Haria!
What kind of Japanese are you speaking?
Well, I'm off!
Good-bye ♡

Maybe she found something she wants?
Radius of Activity 300m
Hana's Daily Life
Go to school
Go home
Sleep
But I wonder why she suddenly started working.
It never bothered her that she didn't have any money before.
SULK
Like a Tempur-Pedic pillow or something.
She's kind of sparkling, isn't she?
Like she's fleshed out.
Is part-time work that much fun?
Hey, guys.
Kyaaa!
Club is cancelled for today.

Um, Hana-chan.
Well, I had my eye on it yesterday, but they sold out just before closing.
Please let there be a chocolate pistachio left today, please let there be...
Eh heh heh
But it's like a dream being able to eat cake from here every day.
Thank you so much for hiring me, Tsujiyama-san.
I just couldn't stand to watch anymore, I guess.
Every single day I couldn't calm down myself.
Eh?

Whether it's in English or French or anything--- Eh heh heh heh
Food vocab is the only kind I can remember easily... ♡
And you have a good memory, Hana-chan.
But this is my first eat-in place and I was just thinking I could use more help, so it's good you showed up.
But it really does have to do with food, huh?
Leave it to me!
Wow, that's impressive
Wow, she looks cute in that uniform.
Huh?
He is pretty good-looking.
She might have been lured in by the pâtissier.
Uah, she's such a pauper
She was probably lured in by the leftovers.

I've heard the cake is really good.
Then we'll have to have some before we go.
FILE
FILE
Cake, cake!
Info from Hana's friends
Ah! Hey, guys!
Ah ha ha. It must have been the leftovers.
Suzuki?
What does that say about Hana-chan as a girl that we can be so sure?
How did you know where I was!?
What are you doing here!?
Izumi said club's cancelled for today, so we came for tea.
Right, Izumi?
Aaaaaaahhh!
JANGLE
JANGLE
Hello!

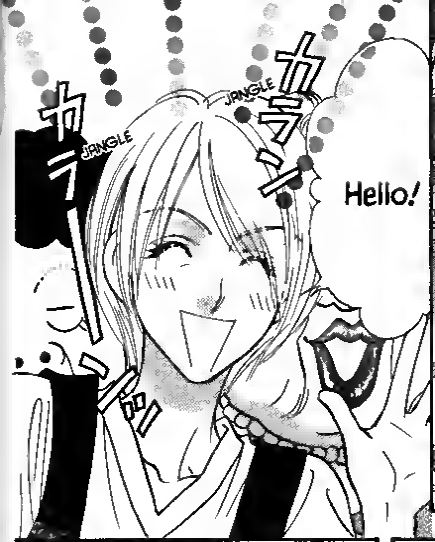
Eeeehhh?
And you were being so arrogant about me ditching. No fair.
Welcome.
Friends of yours, Hana-chan?
They're my sempais from club.
Thank you for your kindness to Hana-chan.
SULK
No, thank you.
Please continue to treat her kindly.
But is it okay for you to come help every day when you have club?
It's fine. Right now, this is more important!
むか
ERGH
I'll take all the cake you have left, please.
What!?

You can't! He promised that I can have whatever cake is left!
You just can't!
So that is how it is.
For the present, you are forbidden to eat cake.
HMPH
How much do you eat every day? In just a week, your face has gotten so fat it looks like it'll burst!
Y-you're mean!
It's just too yummy!
Izumi-sempai.
This is the last day of your job.
Starting tomorrow, you're coming to club and doing something about that flab.
Grrr!
It's nothing to worry about, Hana-chan.
It's cute for girls to be just a little pudgy.

Right?
Tsujiyama-san...!
That's right. You're very cute.
Eh heh heh heh.
E-eh heh. I guess so.

Izumi-sempai, I'm not quitting my job.
If you came here to cause problems, then please go home!
Then we'll work, too.
Wha?
Starting tomorrow, we're working here, too!
Me, too?
He?

We've gained experience points this past year at the inn and the farm!
That's true...
I can make tea!
It's not that we *can't*. It's that we *don't*.
Normally, there's no need.
J... just a minute! What are you thinking? You can't do anything!
Got it, guys!?
And so, for the present, the hockey club will be the *pastry shop club!*
Oohh, we have a part-time job
I knew it.
Hey, Izumi...
It's okay. It's for club, so we don't need pay!
I can't pay more employees, and, um, I might have more workers than customers.
Um, but it's a small shop, so I have enough help already...
That's right. I'm counting on you.
I get all the leftover cake, okay!?
Yaaaaaay! Launching the pastry shop club!
We do always start with the look.
Chef's coats...
Um...
Yeah, it's me. Get me complete sets of chef's coats by tomorrow.
Five of them.


JINGLE
JINGLE
Hello!

You're so thoughtful. Thank you.
Here's some tofu and soy milk from our shop.
Thank you for taking care of Hana.
My, he's handsome!
Mom! Hey!

When I said it was amazing, everyone said they wanted to come!
I'm here to thank you for the cake.
Mom!?
What are you doing here? And with all the ladies from the neighborhood-
Very stylish.
Such a cute shop.

Good afternoon.

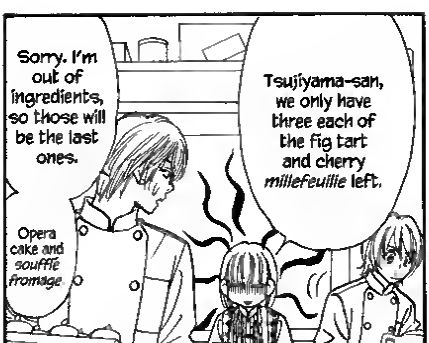
Oooooohhh♡♡
KYA
KYA
KYA
KYA
すごい
LIMINE
What would I recommend?
They're all just so delicious.

But they're not too sweet, so you can eat a lot of them.
That's right. It's so hard to choose.
If you're so indecisive, just get all of them!
Then we'll have them all. ♡
Thank you very much.

Hana-chan, you're up.
One of each kind. /P2
Eeehh? What to pick...
The chocolat framboise looks delicious, but a mont blanc would be good, too.
Maybe I'll just order both.
Extra Seating

You've got so many pounds built up already, you would clearly be taking in too many calories.
You'd better not. At the rate you're going, you'll get arterio-sclerosis.

Then I'll have every-thing you have with fruit. ♡
.....
Iboigawa-sempai!!
Think about your health a little.
If you must eat, have this. Something with more fruit would be better.
BLAH
He's so worried about me...!!

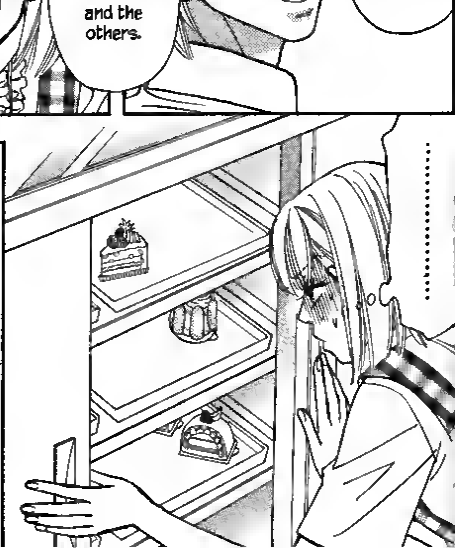

Sorry. I'm out of ingredients, so those will be the last ones.
Opera cake and *soufflé fromage*
Tsujiyama-san, we only have three each of the fig tart and cherry *millefeuille* left.

Suzuki.
Again...!
Well, whatever.

Yeah...
It's all thanks to Oda-kun and the others.

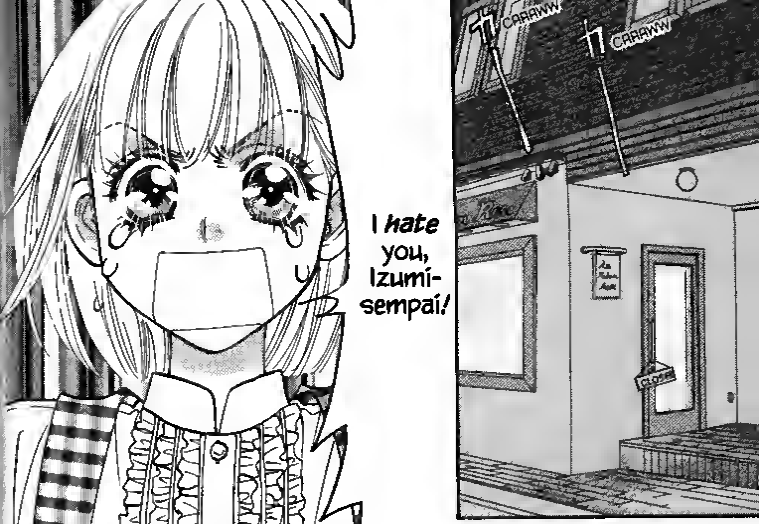
It's incredible, isn't it? This is the first time we've been so busy.

BATA



NYUUUUU!
Where are you going? They're at your table, Izumi-sempai!
Ooooohhhh!
Moé!
GAH
I can't. Let's ask Suzuki.
I don't want to. You go!
So hot.
SHAKE
SHAKE
They're so slender-waisted!
There's temptation everywhere!
Altercation

Did we have a sauce on the gâteau fraise?
Huh?
KOTO
KOTO
No, it's a nosebleed.
Exchange it for a new one
TWITCH
You can't, it would be a waste not to keep your eyes open!!
Hang in there, Kaguya-chan!
So the hockey club became the pastry shop club!?
We came to see it!
Kyaaaa!
You shouldn't have!


I hate you, Izumi-sempai!
CARAWW
CARAWW
ROOM

Isn't it good that sales are booming?
What are you gonna do about this? It's your fault for saying you'd work here, Izumi-sempai!!
Not only the cake, but all the pastries are gone!

Now, now, that's enough.
Why do I have to be yelled at because we sold everything we're selling!?
And you really went home with all the cake yesterday!
It's not good!
Why do you think I was dealing with staying awake and working!?

Truly, thank you for all your hard work today.
This is the first time I've sold everything in the shop.
If we're making this much, maybe I can afford to pay you.
No, that's okay...
Erk...
...chocolat pistache.
I wanted some so badly today...
STING
I guess I'll change clothes and go home.
Let's go, guys.
Y-yeah.
Rage
Hana-chan, come here.

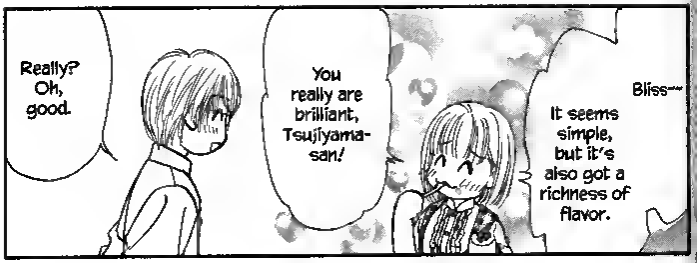
What is it?
?
There's something I'd like your help with.
This.
I tried something new with the tofu and soy milk your mother brought today.
Would you taste test the prototype?

Tsujiyama-san...
With this, you won't have to worry about calories, right?
Tofu-layered cheese-cake.
Such a nice person...!!
Thank you very much...!
I can't believe he's the same species as Izumi-senpai!!
No, it's nothing to cry about.
OFFICE
I kinda feel sorry for Hana-chan.
What for?
If she'd kept it up, she would have been fat as a pig in no time.
It's true.
Ugh, seriously.

Why don't you just apologize?
You must feel a little bad, right?
It looks like Hana-chan really likes Tsujiyama-san's cake.
At this rate, she might keep working and never come back to club.
Erk...
Wow. So you worked in France until last year?
That's right.
After high school, I went to a confectionery school over there.
I'm impressed.
For me, Japan is number one.
It's nice in France. The food's good, too.
Ooohh--

Here, try it.
Wow, it looks so good!
Hana-chan, eat, eat.
It's so cute! I can't believe it was made from the boring tofu at my family's shop.
It almost feels like it's a shame to eat it.
POP
Here goes!
Okay ♡

yummm♡


Really? Oh, good.
You really are brilliant, Tsujiyama-san!
Bliss~~
It seems simple, but it's also got a richness of flavor.

Thank you so much!
Yesss!!
Seconds, seconds!

You can eat as much as you like.
Yay!

Izumi-sempai?
Izumi? What's wrong?
Say, Hana-chan.
.....

Ah! But if you go to France, I won't be able to eat your cake anymore, will I!?
I'm sure you can do it, Tsujiyama-san.
Wow, that's amazing.
It's my dream to open a shop in France someday.
I approve.
MUNCH
MUNCH
On second thought, I don't approve!
Stay in my neighborhood, please!
WHIP
Then you should come, too, Hana-chan.

Won't you come with me, Hana-chan?

She can't!!
Ah!
WHARRM
Are you...
Um
Uh
What the hell are you suggesting all of a sudden!? Hana's a member of my club!
Don't just go off and do things without my permission!
Izumi-sempai!?
Oh, you scared me.
Would you please not listen in on other people's conversations!?
I wasn't listening in! You were talking loud!
Come on, Izumi. We're sorry, Hana-chan.
RRR
RRR

And why do I need your permission, anyway, Izumi-sempai!? That doesn't make sense!
Shut up. You keep quiet!
Ugh, being lured in by handouts. So you don't care who the guy is as long as he gives you food! Is that it!?
Hey! What's that supposed to mean!?
Huh!?
Hana-chan, are you by chance going out with Oda-kun?
Keh!
Who would go out with this elementary schooler!?
Washboard chest
What about you? You're worse than an elementary schooler.

GROPE
Why, you! What the hell are you doing, Hana!?
Just a—!
Ah!
I have more than you, Izumi-sempai, and that's all that matters!!
Hana-chan's getting strong...
Cut it out, Suzuki!
I *said* stop it! And you call yourself a woman!!?
Shut up! Behave yourself!
Police!
Hey, what are you doing!? Let go!
That's my line!
CRSH!
Ah!

Ah!
No! I haven't eaten all my cake!
Understood.
Come on. We're going home.
Takashi, get Hana's things.
Look ou...
ぼと
BOTO

Ah
Sorry.
KAKOMI

That hurt!
What are you doing? I apologized!
Shut up.
FLINCH!
I can't take it anymore.
Why do you only ever get in my way?
Why do I have to deal with you being mad at me, Izumi-senpai?

It's none of your business where I work or who I spend time with, Izumi-sempai.
Please, just leave me alone.

My Heavenly Hockey Club

Chapter 27: The Day Love Was Born!?

What are you doing? We'll be late to club.
Aaahh! So you are here!
Izumi, it's upside-down.
ぼ、ぼけ
STUNNING
We're done being the pastry shop club.
What!? Already!?
Famous Inns and Open-Air Baths
Monopoly
Best Guide

It's no use. Without Hana-chan, we can't even play six-on-six games.
We haven't been to an away game in a while. Let's go.
Come on, Izumi, forget about Suzuki.
Yeah.
It was pretty fun, too

I did apologize.
You didn't ruin her cake on purpose.
If you apologize properly, Hana-chan will forgive you.
STOP
Would you be quiet, Takashi?
We don't need Suzuki. We can find a replacement anywhere.
it seems like he'd be so popular with girls, too
But that Tsujiyama-san's got some weird taste.
And Hana-chan seemed pretty satisfied, herself.
Eehh? But with Hana-chan it's because of the cake, right?
IRA
I don't care if she forgives me.
I don't need Hana to tell me that it's none of my business what she does.
GLOOM
GLOOM
GLOOM

Whatever the reason, it looks like Hana-chan really likes Tsujiyama-san.
And if we're not there, they'll be alone a lot.
Who knows? They could get really attached.
Come on, Natsuki.
Oh, but...
It's none of Izumi's business, is it?
GATAN
if we don't hurry, we'll be late.
Hey, hey, Hana.
KYAAA
Are Oda-sempai and the others coming today!?

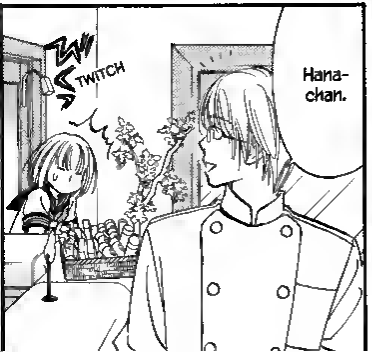
Would you not talk to me about Izumi-sempai, please?
SULK
Eehh? What? Did you have another fight?
Aaaaugh! It ticks me off just thinking about it!
TICK
ムカムカ
Anyway!
Hey, hey, is the food really that good in France?
Wha—?
Well, yeah, they have lots of good food.
Like foie gras and truffles and wine...
Ooookhhh--
But why France?
Tsujiyama-san asked me if I'd go there with him.
When he opens his own shop there.

He was, he was!!
What? Of course not.
I did think that for a second, though.
And we were interrupted.
Eeeehh!? What's that!?
So he was confessing his love to you!?
Huh...?
Really, you're so dense.
You wouldn't say that to a girl you don't like.
You wouldn't!
Like?
I don't know...
I think he's a nice person, but...
So? What will you do? Do you like Tsujiyama-san, Hana?

Does your heart start pounding when you see Tsujiyama-san?
It does, it does.
DOKI
DOKI
DOKI
That settles it.
To think our Hana, who only had interest in *eating and sleeping*...
At last...
Understand, Hana?
It's *love*.

Love!!?

SNEEEERK


TWITCH
Hana-chan.

Hello.
I've been waiting for you.
DOKI
What's wrong? Your face is all red.
N-no, it's nothing.
Oohh, my heart does start pounding.
DOKI DOKI
So this is love...
Yesterday was kind of a blur.
I wonder if I did something wrong...

カラン
JINGLE
Ooooh, there they are
Kyaaaaa
Good afternoon!
カラーン
JINGLE
...you're still doing the pastry shop club today?
Well, look, the customers are waiting.
It would be tough with just the two of you.
キャーッ
KYAAA
キャーッ
KYAAA
Tsujiyama-san, we're sorry about yesterday.
Oh, it's all right. Don't worry about it.
Thank you; you're a big help.

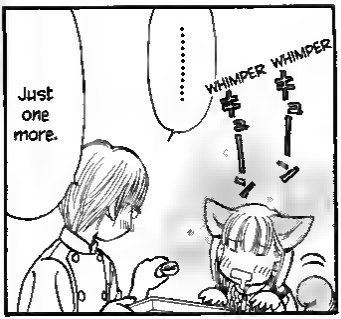
むかむか GRR GRR
Seriously.
おか GRR
HUFF
I'll go ahead and change.
Don't worry about it, Izumi.
むかむか GRR GRR GRR
RAR RAR
どう
Hurry and put on the chef coats...!!
HUFF
WHAM
Kaguya-chan, you'll blur the picture!
Actual Image

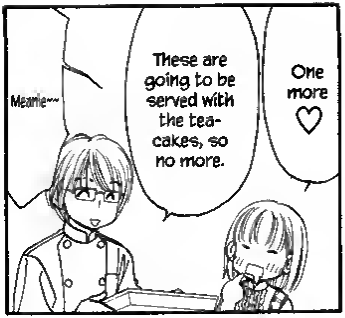
You're so cold, gentlemen.
I thought no one was coming, and here you all are being the pastry shop club!?
When it comes to French pastries, please, leave it to me!
Who do you think I am?
Customers with pets, please stay outside.
CLAP
CLAP
Express to ⇨ Marseilles

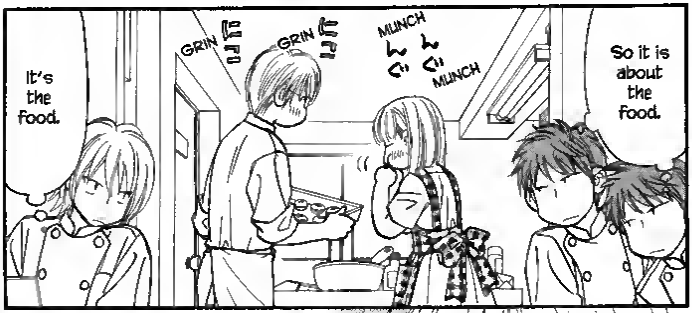
Nothing good comes when Izumi-sempai and the others are involved.
I wish they'd just quit, already.
Things certainly are lively.
WHAM
WHAM
ERGH
Hey, Hana, we need one gâteau fraise and one fromage cru.
FUME
.....

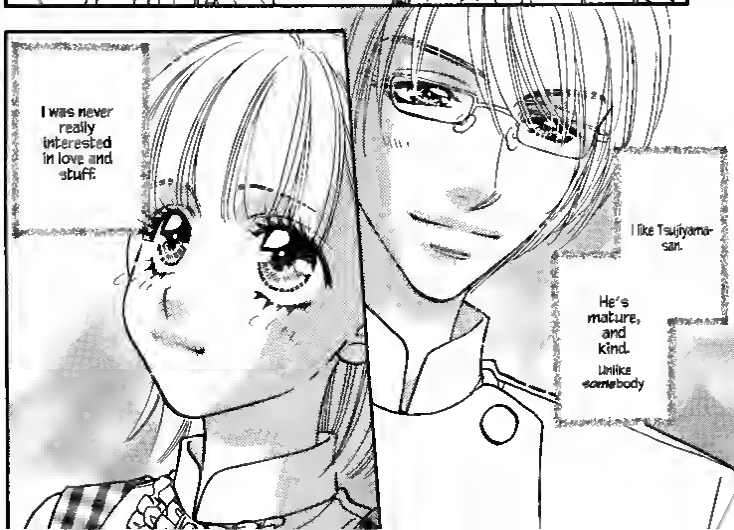
This is why I hate little boys!
And he's not even sorry at all.
Food grudges are a thing to be feared!!
You haven't made up yet?
If you keep making those faces, you'll get wrinkles between your eyebrows.
Eeehh?
ERK
And he did apologize when he ruined the cake.
Really? I don't think that's the case.

Here, will you try this macaroon?
HUFF
HUFF
Oooh, it's so cute ♡
Yummmm ♡


Just one more.
.....
WHIMPER WHIMPER
キュ〜ン キュ〜ン


Meanie~~
These are going to be served with the tea-cakes, so no more.
One more ♡


It's the food.
GRIN ニヤ
GRIN ニヤ
MUNCH もぐ
MUNCH もぐ
So it is about the food.


I was never really interested in love and stuff.
I like Tsujiyama-san.
He's mature, and kind.
Unlike *some*body

But this could be pretty nice...
Izumi?
Izumi-sempai.
Ah...
Shouldn't you hurry and apologize?
We're out of milk. I'm going to get more!

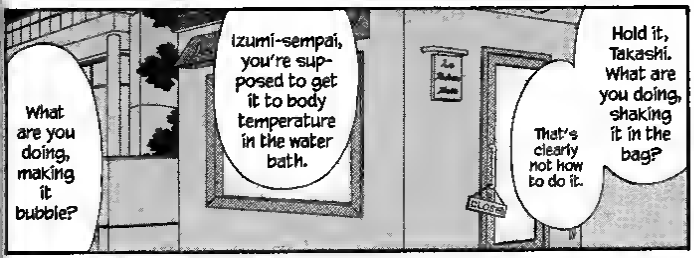
Hey, Izumi.
Kyaa kyaa
きゃあ
きゃあ
You forgot your wallet.
.....
...do you think Hana will go to France?
France..
...no, i don't think she'll go any time soon.
Does it bother you?
Not really.
She told me it's none of my business.

She must really like the cake Tsujiyama-san makes.
However you look at it, she was just dazzled by food.
Erk...
She's always so annoying, saying, "Give it back, give it back!" But this is so deep she won't even say that.
And she's really upset about the cake you ruined.
...Takashi.
Then forget about it.
If she's eating her beloved cake every day, she'll get over it soon enough.
No.
Food grudges are to be feared.
So are you really going to apologize?
I already apologized!
Especially with Suzuki.

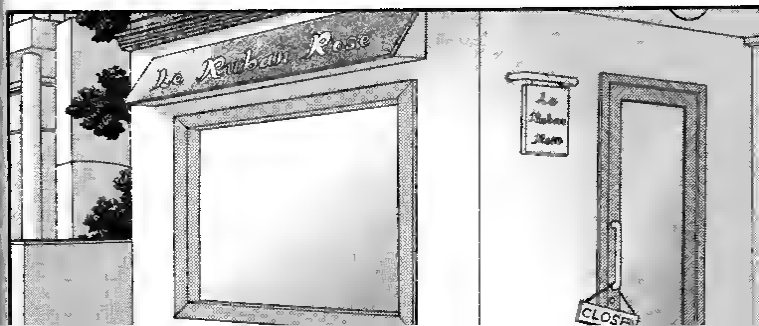
Good work, everyone.
Good work.
I have a favor to ask.
Thank you. Thanks to you, we sold out again today.
Here, I saved some for you, Hana-chan.
Yaaaaay! ♡
When you're done eating, go right home.
You're not done yet? Hurry it up!
IRA IRA IRA
Ugh, what's with him? I feel like I didn't eat it at all!
Stupid Izumi-senpai!!

All right, let's get started!
Yeah!
Thank you for letting us use your kitchen.
The store's closed tomorrow, so use it however you like.
Good luck.
1
And now, the pastry shop club starts in full force!!
どんがらがしゃん
DONGARAGASSHAAAAN
Are you okay?
We're fine
Fine.

Let's see, 1) Beat the eggs and then add the sugar.
Put 1) in a water bath...
How do you do a water bath again?
It says to sift the flour twice.
Sift?


Hold it, Takashi. What are you doing, shaking it in the bag?
That's clearly not how to do it.
CLOSED
Izumi-sempai, you're supposed to get it to body temperature in the water bath.
What are you doing, making it bubble?

Hey, the oven's too hot!
It's smoking! Smoking!
Gyaaaaa! The butter is burnt!


Le Ruban Rose
CLOSED

EXHAUSTED
ぐったり
That's weird. Why isn't it rising?
Maybe gâteau fraise was too hard?
Looks like it could kill someone...
BAM
BAM
BAM
Maybe we should have made a layered cheese-cake?
Sponge cake was impossible to begin with.
We'll be skipping school today.
I'm going out to buy some things.
I'm going to wake myself up.
Yeah.
I'm hungry.
We can't go back after making it this far. We try it again!

Now let's do this.
Ah
KNOCK KNOCK
TOWEL
G...
Good morning.
Good morning.
Could it be you were at this all night?
Yes, well...
What were you making?
Sembei?
Gâteau fraise.
The sponge cake wouldn't rise very well.

Did you beat the eggs?
Did you warm it to body temperature with a water bath?
N-no, we'll do it ourselves!
You should listen to what you can.
Doesn't cost anything.
And you're wasting ingredients.
Erk...
Aaahh, I can't keep my eyes open.
It's just not possible. We'll never bake better than Tsujiyama-san.
If we fed Hana-chan a cake like that, she'd hate us even more.
Ah.

パチン
POP
Hana-chan!
Hana-chan, will you come to the shop?
Eh?
.....
Oh yeah, you know. Izumi.
Huhhh? What are you all doing?
The shop is closed today.
Hey, Natsuki.
There's no hope for the ends right now; what's important are the means.
I can't. I have to get to school.
I have one minute.

It's okay, it's okay.
Eh!? Hey, I'll be late!!
Huh? Tsujiyama-san.
Eh? What is Izumi-sempai doing?
Yes, that's right.
Shhh!
Don't mix it too much.
Lightly, like you're slicing it with the spatula.
Yes, very good.

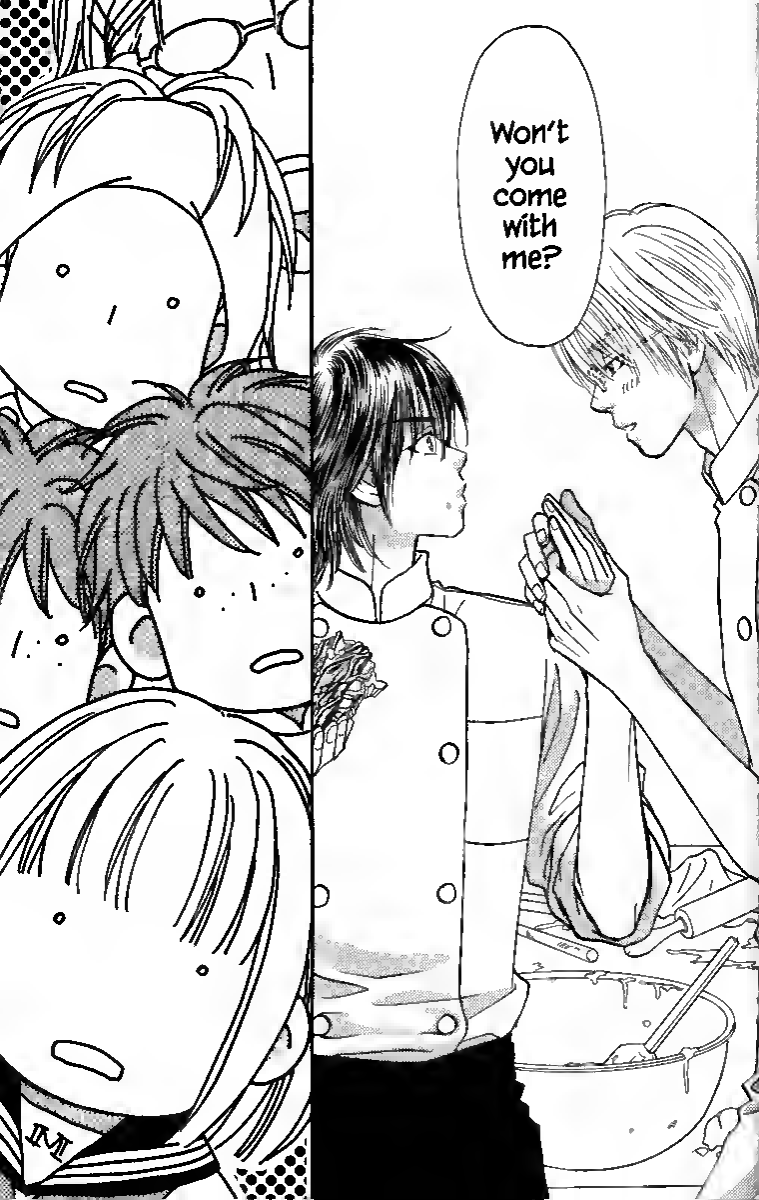
He's been working hard since last night.
So he says he'll make a cake for you himself.
He ruined the prototype cake the other day, right?
Oh, it kinda looks good.
This time, it will turn out.
Making a cake?
Izumi-sempai...
If he feels bad, he should just apologize and get you to forgive him.
But as usual, he has to keep up that front.
Izumi-sempai is?

If he doesn't get your forgiveness fast, he'll waste all the resources, too.
.....
Whaaa? But..
And apparently he was really dejected when you told him that it's none of his business and to leave you alone.
Please let it turn out this time.
It'll be fine.
...well, all right then.
I am a little happy right now, myself.
Thanks to Tsujiyama-san.
From now on, I'll have a little bit more of an open mind and let the narrow-minded Izumi-sempai off the hook.
GRRRRRROW!
Bbbbbb

Are you hungry?
I am.
They're taking forever...
If you like, would you try the new cake I made at home?
Thank you.
JERK
Here you are. Eclair praline.
GRIN
GRIN
I'm quite proud of it.
STARE
.....
What?
Eat, eat!
Nothing. Thank you.
I was so pissed off at him the other day, but now it's just gone...
Aaaugh

Ah.
This is good.

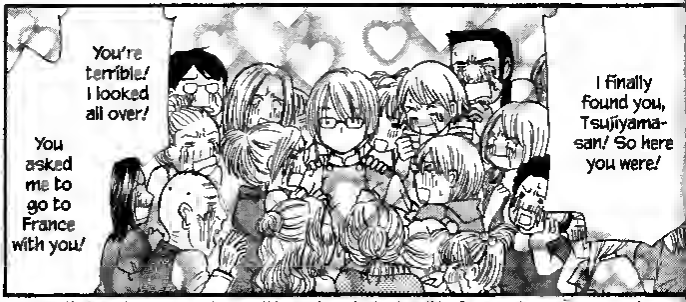
Oda-kun.
?
it's my dream to open a shop in France someday.
I know...?
Nn?
This sounds familiar somehow...


Won't you come with me?

Oda-kun...
J-just a—uh!
Izu!
THWACK
GOROOON
GYAAA

!
H-Hana!
Help m...
KONK

Izumi-
sempai,
I
hate
you!



Question: Now, how many people are on this page? You don't get anything for answering correctly. Too bad.

Hey, Hana.
Well...
What's with the tragic heroine act? You hit me in the head with a sponge cake!
Get over it already.
Never mind. Please, just leave me alone.
Who cares about one or two lost loves?

Why would Yuki-san...?
Who knows...?
Hmm.
Apparently Yuki-san's family is helping him get there.
Come to think of it, I heard Tsujiyama-san really is going to France.
PERK
Huhhh? Then I won't be able to eat Tsujiyama-san's cake anymore.
I don't know about him as a person, but his cake was really good.
After he did that to you, you still have an attachment to him?
But, well, leave it to me.
It's not like we were the pastry shop club just for show.
Heh heh heh.
?

Take a look! *This* time, it was a success!
It doesn't look so great, but I know it tastes good!
...What is this?
I baked it just for you. Be grateful.
Now eat as much as you like.
What was that!?
This really is awful.
Yuck
Fighting over a guy is good, too, but it really has to be Takashi x Izumi But I saw something wonderful. Huffff
IN PARIS
The End
Look forward to Volume 8

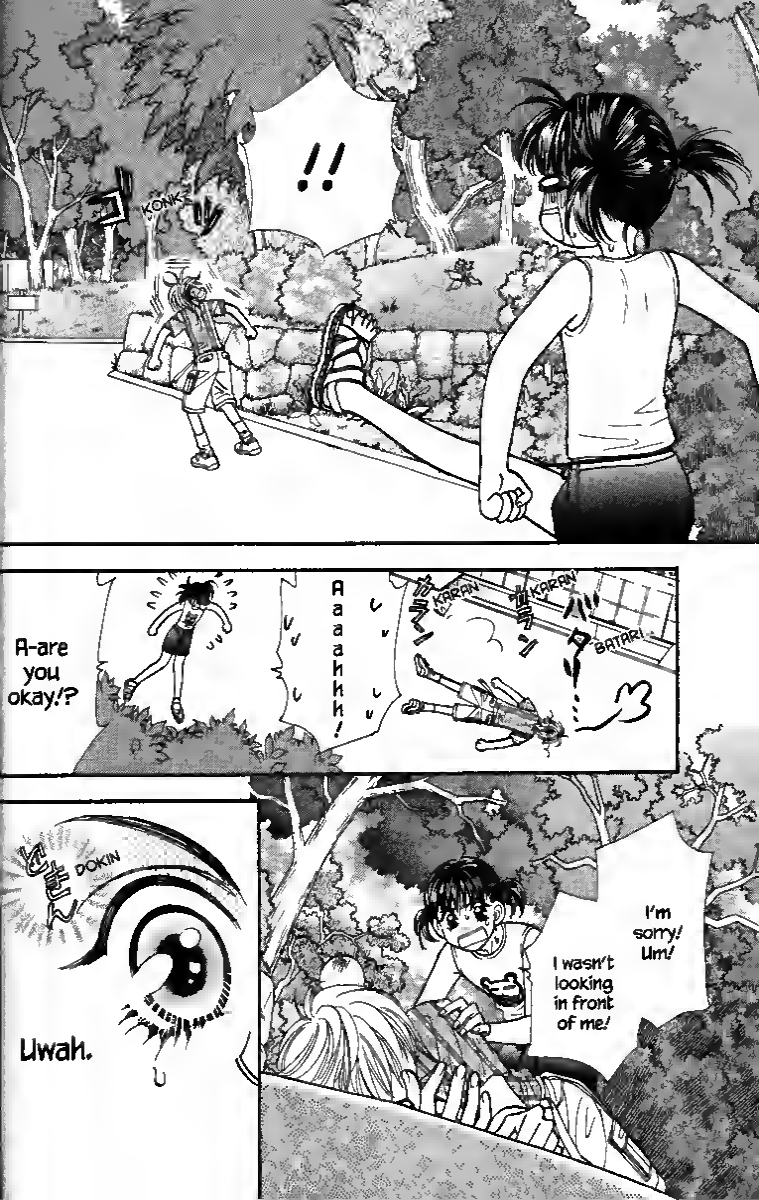
Extra Chapter: Boy, Girl

Osu!
Next, do a gyakuzuki!
Seiken chûdan gyakuzuki!
One
Two
Mahiru!!

Sachiko-san, have you seen Mahiru?
Oh, Father. Did she run from you again?
SNEEEEEAK
SNAP
Kyaaa!?
Erk!
What? You're ditching?
You have no ambition. And you're the heiress.
Success!
Gya ha ha ha
Sôta!

What are you doing, pervert!?
Heh
You've only got muscle anyway. Wearing a bra is a waste of resources.
SNAP
Who's wasting resources!?
Ohh.
Oh, my.

Waaah!
わーっ
A wonderful jôdan...
That's my successor.
Oh, my.
She killed Sôta!
I'm not inheriting any dojo!
FAR
Excuse me for having a flat chest.
They just won't grow because I was forced to do muscle training.
I'm quitting karate!!
Stupid Sôta!
I hate boys!
They're stupid! And sweaty! And insensitive! And rude!
Augh, man, I'm ticked!
BAM


!!
KONK
A-are you okay!?
Aaaahhh!
KARAN
KARAN
BATTARI
I'm sorry! Um!
I wasn't looking in front of me!
DOKIN
Uwah.

Like a doll...!
Her skin's so white!
Her coloring is so light!
Her eyelashes are so long!
TWITCH
C...
Cuuuute!!
A-are you okay!?
I feel like something hit me.
..huh?
Ommm
PANIC

I'm okay.
You helped me, didn't you?
Thank you.
GLOOOOM
Do you live around here?
Y-yes! Makiru Koyama, age 14, number 7 in Class 2-A at Yamanaka Middle School!
Wow, then we're the same age.
I'm Natsuki Serizawa.
I'll be staying in the villa over there during the summer vacation. Nice to meet you...
CLATTER
Sôta!

Let's go! Serizawa-san.
I'll take you home.
KAKONK
TWITCH
You shouldn't even be in the same dimension!
No! As a living thing, Mahiru is too different!
Ugh, I hate boys!
They're violent and mean and filthy!
Huh?
Ah. Can I call you Natsuki-chan?
Don't you agree, Natsuki-chan!?
CLASP
Y-yeah.
It really is good to hang out with fellow girls!

.....
Heh heh heh
It's only for summer vacation, but let's be friends, okay? ♡
Yeah ♡

You drank all the milk again!
STERM
ぼか
STERM
ぼか
Aaaaahh!
Ah, hey, Makiru!
GULP
GULP
GULP
Next!
STICK
Ergh!?
Makiru takes after her father.
Breasts get in the way of training.
ふおっふおっ
Ho.Ho
Huge rack...
Really. You're only fourteen years old. You don't need to worry about that yet.
.....
My, now that you mention it....
That's a good trend.
Big-boned.
GATAN
Eh!? What? What?
Huh? Makiru.
Lately, you look more...

Big-boned...
It's true...
Maybe I'll stop drinking milk.
Natsuki-chan is so slender.
I guess people from the city are just different after all.
They're basically made differently.
I wish I was like that too...

Mahiru-chan.
I'm back again!
GASA
GASA
GASA
Hello!
Natsuki-chaaaan!
Welcome.
Hey, Sôta.
Your face is looking kind of clean these days.

Sakashita St.
That's because, you know. He hasn't encountered Makiru in a while.
Oh yeah, she's been going to that villa, huh?
Ma'am, I'd like a chocolate monaka.
He's running out of fresh wounds.
Apparently she made friends with the girl there and is going there all the time.
I saw her for a second. She's super cute!
Oohh
She's like the exact opposite of Makiru. I can't believe they're the same species.
Those two are always talking to each other.
It's like, you know? Opposites attract.
Achoo!

What's wrong? A summer cold?
No, I'm pretty sturdy; I don't get colds.
SNIFFLE
Come to think of it, I hear your family runs a karate dojo, Mahiru-chan.
Eh!? How did you know that!?
My mom was talking with people while she waited at the post office.
...was it a secret?
Erk...
I hate it. Because I do stupid karate the boys call me a she-male and President Koyama.
President Koyama
A-and on top of that, they say even my chest is muscle.
Picking on people's insecurities...!!

You don't have to worry about that.
I like strong girls.
Like the girls on the posters for tournaments; they look really cool posing.
I imagine them all with ponytails.
Natsuki-chan...
But even for those posters, they choose cute girls...
That's true.
Sigh...
If I was as cute as you, Natsuki-chan, I wouldn't care what anyone said about me.
Man...

It's okay, it's okay. There are all kinds of people in the world, so I just know there's someone who will think you're cute, Mahiru-chan.
Eehhh? Really--?
Really truly.
There's no way that's really true.
Well there might be someone who's not human.
Hey, you. What are you doing here!?
I heard your thick voice when I was passing by, so I just stopped to take a look.
Geh!
Sôta!
Then go away already, peeping tom!
Peep!?
Who would peep on you, flatchest!?
Shoo, shoo!
Flat...!?
GYAAA
GYAAA

Um...
You shouldn't fight.
STOP
I-I'm sorry. Don't worry about it. This happens all the time!
WHAM
See, we already stopped!
Really?
Yeah!
Oh, good.
Natsuki-chan is such a nice girl...
Like an angel...
Let's forget about that guy.
Oh yeah! There's a summer *matsuri* at the shrine the day after tomorrow.
Summer *matsuri*?
Oooh!

Let's go together.
Do you have a yukata, Natsuki-chan?
No, I don't.
KYA
Well, I have two, so I'll lend you one.
Really?
Don't bother wearing one, Makiru.
Your shoulders are so wide, it'd be scary.
Keh.
All you need is a jinbei.
TWITCH
Remember this, Makiru!
Gorilla!
Hn.
If you don't have any business here, then go home!!
BOBOBOBOBO

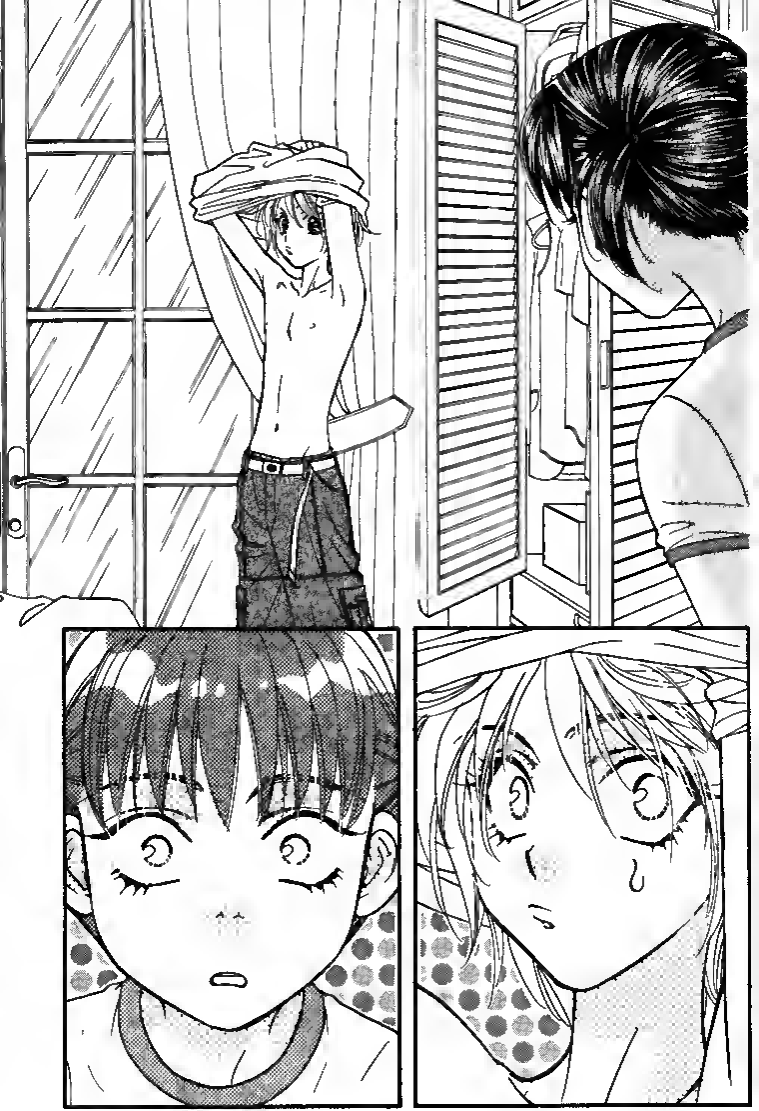
JOBO
JOBO
!!

I'll just go change.
Wait just a minute.
BATAN

I'm sorry, I'm so sorry!
It's okay. Don't worry about it.

It's no use; I can't stand still.
Uh, um, on second thought,
Is there anything I can help w...
GACHA

Thoughtless...!!
Why am I so...!!?
Aaaugh! I know. She's just appalled!
Aaaugh, I'm so stupid!



TOUCH
That is
Uh...
Um
This is...
SASA
WHACK
Ma...
Makinu-chan?
ZURI
ZURI
ZURI
She's just like me!
This is the first time I've seen someone my age with a smaller chest than mine...!!
It's cruel that she thought this, so it's a secret.

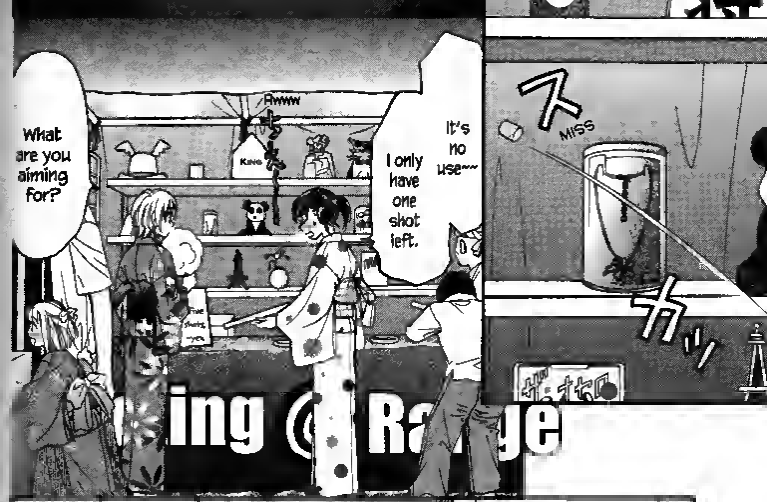
O-oh, no, you don't have to be so hard on yourself...
No matter what you may say, you can't be that flat...
It's okay. We're only second-years in middle school.
Let's drink milk and try hard together...!!
.....!
I'm sorry...
It's true...
BAM
FLINCH
Believe me!!
I'm not being hard on myself! Look!
Mixed feelings on being believed so easily.
Ah! No.
I really am sorry!
It's okay. You still have more than I do.
Besides, with or without breasts, you're cute, Mahiru-chan.

So have more faith in yourself.
Okay?
DOKIN
Natsuki-chan...
DOKI
DOKI
DOKI

Hello.
Makiru!
Your friend's here.
H-here, a yukata. Is this one okay!?
Yes, thank you.
What is it? Ever since then, I feel weird when I look at Natsuki-chan.
All right, when you've got the yukata on, come see me, okay?
Yes, ma'am!
DOKIN
HEROIC
1976
Nnngh
うぬっ

Heh heh
I feel like I really do
than normal.
But, like I don't...
feel cuter
OOHH!
OOHH!
This is the first time I've worn a *yukata* like this.
The *obi* really is a little tight.
But standing next to Natsuki-chan, I don't feel cute at all.
However, you may look at it...
Makiru-chan, you're so cute. ♡
I-it's okay. Don't say it.
It makes me sad...

Hurry, Natsuki-chan, hurry!
Makiru-chan, you're too excited.
Let's go, Natsuki-chan!
Yeah.
Hey, where should we star...
Geh. Makiru!
Geta can be dangerous weapons. Be careful!
The girl next to her is so cute...
Ugh, man, here we are having fun and we had to see something gross.
Today, I'm ignoring them!
So what should we do?
Where should we start?
First, we eat some takoyaki and go to the goldfish scoop!
My blood is boiling!
All right, let's do it!
Kya! Kya!
Eat them all at once


What are you aiming for?
Awww
King
It's no use...
I only have one shot left.
Miss
ing Range

Mahiru-chan, let me see that.
That.
The necklace third from the left.
It's cheap-cute...

Leave it to me.
Eehh? Can you do it, Natsuki-chan?

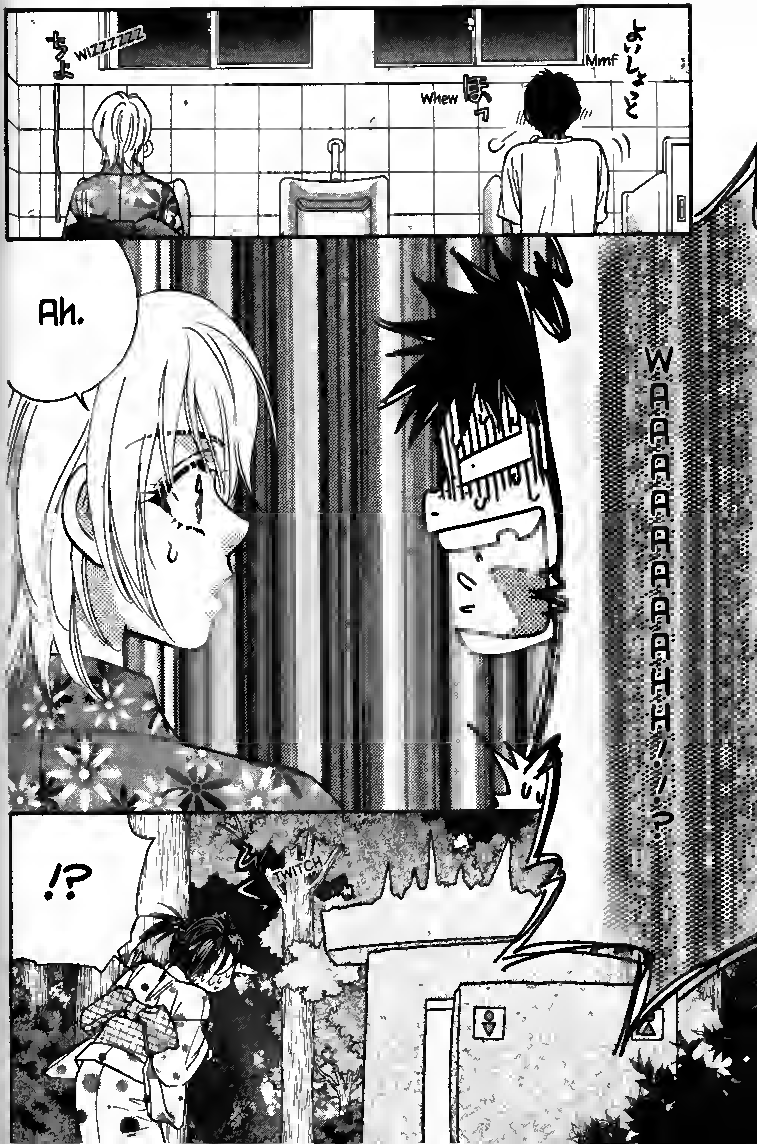
BAKO
Wow, Natsuki-chan!
Piece of cake ♡
Ooohh
Whoa!
Here, Makiru-chan.
Th-thank you.
Since it's right here, I'll put it on you.

I'm so big-boned, something this delicate wouldn't suit me.
Eh?
You wear it, Natsuki-chan.
No, on second thought,
Oo
That's not true. This has gold in it, so I think it would look better on someone with darker coloring.
Here, give it to me.
You're wearing a *yukata* so it won't show up very well, but....

SHHHHH
DOKKU
DOKKU
DOKKU
DOKKU
DOKKU
DOKKU
DOKKU
VRYOOOOM
Makiru-chan!?
Eh?
Um, I'm gonna just...!
Th-thank you.
BABAH

Makiru-chan!
SASA!
Eep!
STOP
I thought my heart would pop out of my mouth...
HUFF HUFF
HUFF HUFF
THUMP
Th-this girl's more delicate than me...!
What is with me?
Stop pounding, heart!
I wonder where she went
It's dangerous for her to be wandering in the dark by herself
!?
I-I'm sorry, Natsuki-chan. Just a little longer...

It may be me, but I'm not gonna be in the boys' bathroom!!
N-Natsuki-chan!?
Or did I look like I was going to the boys' bathroom...?
Nimoh I'm gonna wet myself!
Mahiru?
It's possible...
Wha?
They'll think Natsuki-chan's a pervert!
Sôta! Good timing! Go look in the boys' bathroom.
Just go!
You can go in the boys' bathroom yourself...
KAPOW
Pakh!
She could at least act like a girl when she's dressed like that.
What if I'd wet myself?
That hurt! What is with her?


ちょ
WIZZZZZZ
Whew
ほっ
よいしょと
Mmf
Ah.
WAAAAAAAAAAAAH!!?
!?
TWITCH

Ma-
Makiru!
She's a guy!!
Eh!?
Hey, don't look over here!
What the...!? You're—
SPIN
Waah!
I won't be able to go.
/ Makiru-chan.
Ugh, Sôta. Of course she's not a guy.
It's true! I saw it!
Saw what?

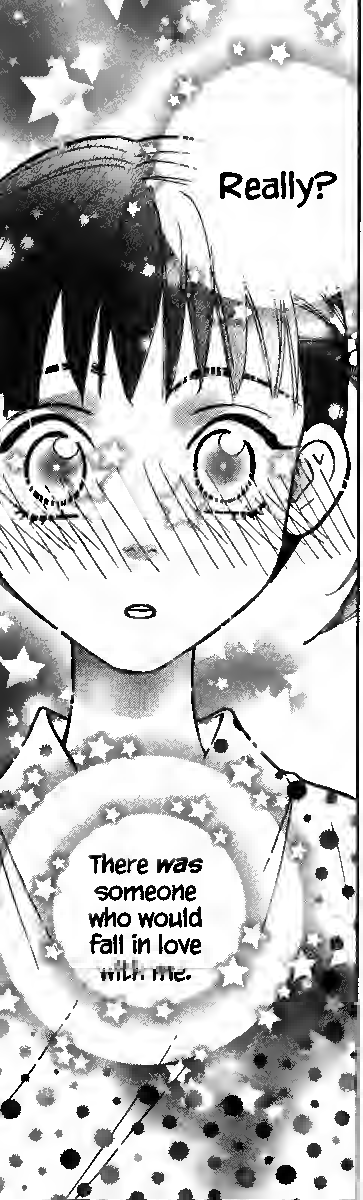
Kyaaaaaahh!
GASH!
Ehheheh
You found me out
A!
A guy!!?

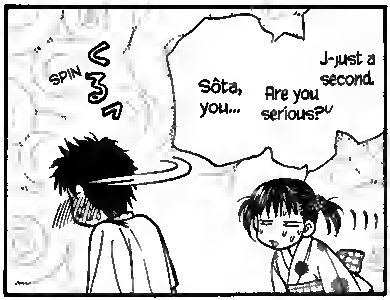
J-just a second.
Makiru-chan, are you okay?
But I.../
SWEAT
SWEAT
SWEAT
I'm sorry.
At first, I just wanted to tease you a little because you mistook me for a girl.
Death
But you didn't realize even after you saw me topless, so it got kind of hard to bring it up...
Th...
That's awful. I...
I believed you, and even showed you my chest.
Ch-chest...../?

I'm sorry, Mahiru-chan.
Do you hate me?
His hands.
I thought they were slender and delicate, but they're bigger than mine.
DOKIN
He really is a boy—
No...
DOKIN
DOKIN
Hey!

What do you mean, "chest"?
Makiru, what did he do to you!?
Why you! Making Makiru cry!
I'll never forgive you!!
.....
Eh!?
TWITCH
Why are you so mad, Sôta?
That is...
Come on, why?
B...
Because

Because I like you.
ぼそっ
WHISPER
You think I'd fall for that, stupid?
You trying to pick a fight!?
You think I could say something so ewww as a joke!?
Eh!?
BUUUUSH
かあああ


Really?
There was someone who would fall in love with me.


SPIN
Sôta, you...
Are you serious?
J-just a second.

No way.

See? Just like I told you.
You should have faith in yourself.
...what'll I do? I...
Feel really good.
Having someone tell me they like me...
Makiru...!
JUUN

Th-then...
Do you like me, too...?
Thank you,
Sôta

Huh?
GAH
Thanks to you, I have faith in myself!
I'll at least accept your feelings!
Well, I have always thought that I might be a little cute~~
CHUCKLE
CHUCKLE
Like that?
So what is this~~? Maybe I'm not so bad after all?
Ideals really do have to be high.
It's okay.
But I have a goal now.
I'm sorry, Sôta.
I'm sorry I thought you were a girl, Natsuki-chan.

I'll work hard to be so cute that Natsuki-chan will tell me he likes me!!
Hn!
!?
CHILL
...I'm kind of cold somehow, so let's go get something warm to eat, okay?
But I'm big-boned, so maybe I'll be more pretty than cute.
I wonder which is Natsuki-chan's type.
Let's go, let's go. ♡ I like ikayaki.
You saw my chest, so you're treating, okay, Natsuki-chan. ♡♡
But you touched mine, Makiru-chan.
Then I guess we're even.
The End

Translation Notes

Japanese is a tricky language for most Westerners, and translation is often more art than science. For your edification and reading pleasure, here are notes on some of the places where we could have gone in a different direction with our translation of the work, or where a Japanese cultural reference is used.

Shizuoka, page 5

Shizuoka is the capital of Shizuoka Prefecture, a prefecture in central Japan, not far from Tokyo.

Shinkansen, page 6

The *shinkansen* is the bullet train.

Aichi Prefecture, page 10

Another prefecture in Japan, on the other side of Shizuoka from Tokyo.

Misokatsu, *unagi*, *tenmusu*, and *ebi-fry* page 11

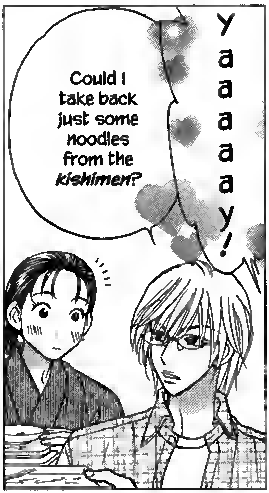
All of these are local dishes of Nagoya, the capital city of Aichi Prefecture. *Misokatsu*, or miso cutlets, consists of pork cutlets with a red miso sauce. *Unagi*, or eel, is big in Aichi, and has been cooked into a wide variety of dishes. *Tenmusu*, short for *tempura musubi*, is a rice ball with shrimp tempura, and *ebi-fry* is fried shrimp.

Nagoya Cochin, page 12

A special breed of chicken found in Nagoya, and used in making Nagoya's many famous chicken dishes.

Kishimen, page 19

The noodle specialty of Nagoya, *kishimen* is a flat, brown noodle often served with miso.



Kaeru manjû, page 37

Kaeru means frog, so a *kaeru manjû* is a steamed yeast bun shaped like a frog. It's a type of sweet you can buy in Nagoya.

Happiness fat, page 41

In Japan, this is what they call it when a man gains weight after getting married. The idea is that the man is happily eating his new wife's delicious food so much that he gets fat.

Moé, page 66

Moé is a phrase used by fanboys and fangirls to describe the type of character from an anime or video game that they have a particular attraction to, and the strong feelings that those characters inspire.

Water bath, page 108

A water bath, or *yusen* in Japanese, is a way to cook something by putting a container holding the ingredients in warm or boiling water. Water baths are used to cook things that need careful temperature regulation, like chocolate and eggs, because the water serves as a buffer to prevent the ingredients from getting too hot too quickly.

Sembei, page 110

Sembei are Japanese rice crackers, known for being flat, quite the opposite of spongecake.

Takashi x Izumi, page 127

The line is said by a character from an earlier volume, who's obsessed with a genre of manga called *yaoi*. It's kind of like slash fiction in the U.S.—stories of homosexual relationships between male characters written for the enjoyment of a female readership. Just as writers of slash fiction denote the characters that are the subject of the relationship using a "slash" between their names—Kirk/Spock, Frodo/Sam—yaoi fans sometimes use an "x" for the same purpose, as in "Takashi x Izumi." This character is enjoying the idea of Izumi and the baker or Izumi and Takashi having a relationship.

Seiken chûdan gyakuzuki and *osu*, page 128

Seiken means "correct fist," and is a normal fist with the thumb outside the rest of the fingers. *Chûdan* means "middle level," and refers to a strike to the middle level, or the body/torso, and *gyakuzuki* is a "reverse strike." So the instructor is telling his students to do a reverse punch at body level using a *seiken* fist. *Osu*, in this case, means "yes, sir!"

Jôdan, page 131

Referencing Mahiru's attack on Sôta, Mahiru's grandfather is impressed with her *jôdan* kick. *Jôdan* means "higher level," and in karate refers to a strike to the head.

Chocolate *monaka*, page 140

A *monaka* is a wafer cake with filling. In this case, he's buying a chocolate *monaka*, which is kind of like an ice cream sandwich. In the center is a layer of chocolate, surrounded by ice cream, all contained in a waffle-like wafer.

Matsuri, page 144

A *matsuri* is a Japanese festival. There are food, games, and entertainment, like a fair, only without rides. Everyone dresses up in Japanese-style clothing.

Yukata, page 145

A *yukata* is a summer kimono, made of cotton and less formal than a normal kimono. Like a kimono, a *yukata* is tied with a belt called an *obi*, which, for girls, is wide and tied in a special, decorative way, and is a little more restrictive than the *obi* men wear. Girls like to show off how they look in *yukata* when they go to a *matsuri*.

Jinbei, page 145

Jinbei is informal summer clothing for men, consisting of a short coat and pants that go to the knees.

Geta, page 153

Geta is a type of Japanese shoe worn with *yukata*, kind of like flip-flops, only made of wood and standing on two wooden slats called "teeth." Since Mahiru is prone to kicking boys, they would certainly want to avoid her when she's wearing such potentially painful footwear.

Takoyaki and goldfish scoop, page 153

Both are musts for summer *matsuri*. *Takoyaki* is fried octopus, formed in balls and put on a skewer. The goldfish scoop is a game where you catch goldfish with paper nets.

Ikayaki, page 170

Fried squid

Princess Tenko, author's note

Princess Tenko is a famous Japanese magician and illusionist, and even she would be shocked and amazed at Hogeo-kun's ability to look like just a head.